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Poulos et al.

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(54) **APPENDING AUDIT MARK IMAGE**

(75) Inventors: **John Poulos**, Toronto (CA); **James Hoover**, Montreal (CA); **Nick Ikonomakis**, Toronto (CA); **Goran Obradovic**, Toronto (CA)

(73) Assignee: **Dominion Voting Systems, Inc.**,
Denver, CO (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 911 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC G06Q 30/0207-30/0277; G06Q 20/382;
G06Q 20/401; G07C 13/00

USPC 705/12
See application file for complete search history.

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(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

G07C 13/00 (2006.01)

G06Q 20/38 (2012.01)

G06Q 20/40 (2012.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **G07C 13/00** (2013.01); **G06Q 20/382**
(2013.01); **G06Q 20/401** (2013.01)

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Primary Examiner — Chrystina E Zelaskiewicz

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Holland & Hart LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system, method and computer program for tabulating votes and creating an audit trail is provided. A ballot processing device may include a paper feed mechanism, a computer, a ballot processing application loaded on the computer, and a digital scanning device linked to the computer. The ballot processing application may process the digital image to establish a series of processing results defining one or more voting results for the paper ballot, and also an audit trail. The ballot processing application may process the digital image to define the voting results based on criteria established by election officials, including ambiguous mark criteria. The audit trail enables election officials to verify that particular paper ballots have been processed correctly in accordance with these criteria.

20 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

City of Anywhere
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